

Article from Veterans Report, Thursday, June 12, 1947:

"I Spy, You Spy

SPY-DEERWEB OF INTRIGUE
EXISTS IN CIG, IS CHARGE

"If the thinly-veiled insinuations of VFW and American Legion civil service investigators are fact, then the U. S. A. is suffering from an acute overdose of intrigue. Last week, Rep. Fred E. Busbey (R) of Illinois took reports from the two veterans' groups, together with his personal findings, to Congress asking for a full-scale investigation of CIG by the House Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Department.

"The Central Intelligence Group, top Federal cloak-and-dagger outfit at Washington, was under fire for suspected (1) disloyalty among employees, (2) undue influence of United Public Workers, (3) inadequate screening of employees, (4) uncalled for personnel shifts among top command, (5) grabbing of too many intelligence operations which should be out of CIG's jurisdiction, and (6) violations of veterans preference.

"VFW's spokesman reported that his organization had received voluminous complaints and charges from veterans 'covering alleged violations of veterans' preference and other irregularities,' so many, in fact, that 'considerable' material had been presented to the House Un-American Activities committee.

"The American Legion disclosed charges by members indicating 'unbearable' conditions within CIG 'involving questions of loyalty and spies, but I don't want to say anything about higher-ups that can be quoted because they're too high up to be touched. They can cover up one for another.'

"According to the rumor market, there is significance in the departure of General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, nephew of the senator, from his position in charge of the CIG; then there is a twist in the long-extended leave of another high-ranking CIG official who has been in London 'until things blow over' (according to our informant); and the UPWA (CIO) union membership, which they say occasionally trots a Trotsky or Stalin or some kind of line, also comes into the picture. The veteran is caught in the middle in CIO-AFL squabbles.

"Necessity for a full-dress probe, to get the true facts on the matter, is obvious to Rep. Busbey. ~~Whether the smoke comes from inter-bureau, inter-union or inter-political fire rather than from subversive plotting is impossible to state. The fact remains that the amount of smoke being generated from CIG is sufficient to hamstring the efficiency of a vital agency.~~

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